

Notes on Micronesian Pteridophyta

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Critical study of an accumulation of specimens from Micronesia, largely collected by the U. S. Commercial Company Economic Survey, in 1946, has yielded some new records and observations on the identity and limits of some of the species, as well as a new species of *Gleichenia* (s.l.) These, insofar as they concern the pteridophyte families other than Polypodiaceae (sensu lato, incl. Cyatheaceae), are reported here. The excessive splitting of genera by Ching, Copeland, Reed, and others has, in general, not been followed in identifying these specimens. I have not yet been convinced that most of the broad genera used here are not phylogenetic entities. It seems that, so long as each entity is believed to be monophyletic, the concept of the genus may legitimately be made to emphasize similarities rather than to bring out differences. I can see little to be gained by systematically raising genera to the category of family.

By courtesy of authorities of the Arnold Arboretum, I have been so fortunate as to be able to study quite a number of the specimens cited by Hosokawa in his several papers. I also have had the enormous collections in the U. S. National Herbarium, with some other Micronesian sheets, including some of those collected by Kanehira, available for comparison. It is entirely probable that never before have so many Micronesian Pteridophyta been assembled for study. Herbarium abbreviations are as follows: (US) U. S. National Herbarium; (A) Arnold Arboretum; (Hon) Bernice P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu; (Fo) specimens in my own possession, not yet deposited in any institution.